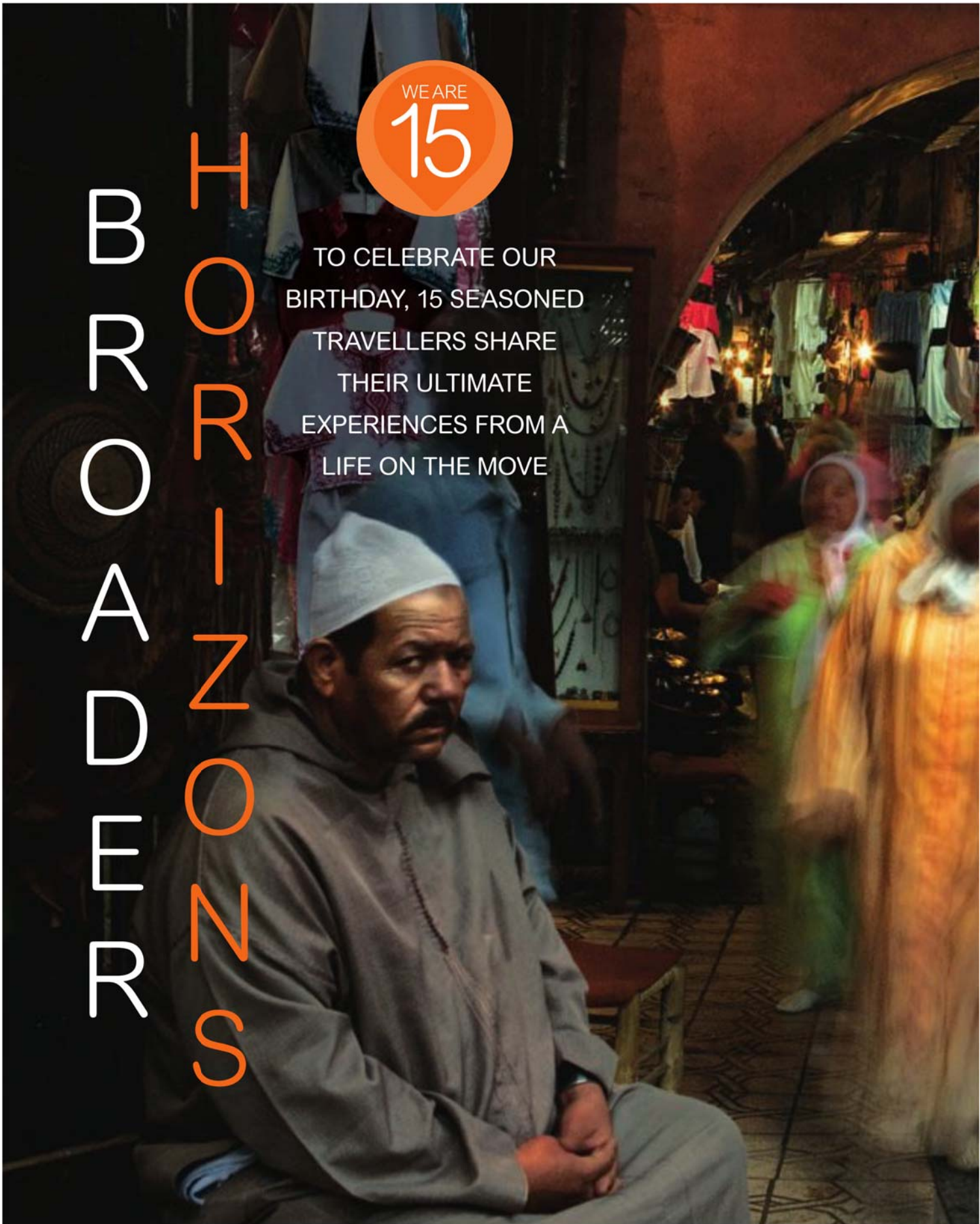


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TO CELEBRATE OUR  
BIRTHDAY, 15 SEASONED  
TRAVELLERS SHARE  
THEIR ULTIMATE  
EXPERIENCES FROM A  
LIFE ON THE MOVE





#### ◀ MARRAKECH

**Steve Bloom is a world-renowned travel photographer. He has travelled widely across Africa and Europe, taking pictures and exhibiting his work**

I went to Marrakech when I was working on a big coffee table book called *Living Africa*, which covered the full length and breadth of the African continent. In the market square Djemaa el Fna, I found myself determined to capture something of the unique spirit, liveliness, colour and energy of North Africa. Humans are very social animals and you're never more aware of that than when you're at the market in Marrakech.

In the early evening light I got the most marvellous pictures of steam and smoke from people cooking outside. I liked the blur of people coming and going and the abstract patterns I could see in the still lives; I could get amazing close-ups of simple produce like olives and tomatoes. I felt that Morocco had something special and something a little bit different. It was a feast for the senses. It's somewhere that, in international air travel terms, you can reach incredibly quickly from many places, and yet it feels so completely different to wherever you travelled from.



#### ▼ MENORCA

**René Lönngrén is a Swedish entrepreneur and founder of Le Cool Publishing, Europe's leading producer of alternative city guides. He lives in Barcelona and loves to travel**

About four years ago I was burned out from an intense period in my work and personal life and I needed a break. So I went to Menorca with my Vespa. There's this old road down the middle of the island called Camí d'en Kane that they don't really use any more, and every day I'd ride off towards the ocean, then hike, sometimes for an hour, to isolated beaches. It was the first time I went nude on a beach – it was so far away from everything, I didn't care.

I read a lot and listened to playlists I had in my phone – my wife had put some songs together and that reminded me of the home we had together.

It's the only time I've spent a week on my own. Le Cool is all about the most extraordinary experiences, but this trip was about accessing something opposite to that. It was an extraordinary experience, but not a cool one – it was very much about getting away from the tribe.

Of the big Balearic Islands, Menorca is the one that has the least tourism. I enjoyed the Ciutadella, which is the old capital. It's lost in time in a way – there's very little tourism because most of that happens on the other side of the island.



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